

Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ARA-06 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ISO-00 /060 R

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D/HA/HR-MR.SPEAR
ARA-MR.DRISCOLL

-----020636Z 016156 /23-12

R 282240Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3- LINES 4, 5, 6,)
E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS AND STATEMENTS.

1. PURSUANT TO SECTION 502(B)(B) OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT OF 1976, THE DEPARTMENT IS FORWARDING TO THE CONGRESS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS REQUIRED HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS FOR ABOUT EIGHTY COUNTRIES FOR WHICH WE ARE PROPOSING SECURITY ASSISTANCE. WE EXPECT THESE REPORTS WILL LEAD TO INVOCATION UNDER THE SAME LAW OF REQUESTS FOR UNCLASSIFIED SECTION 502(B)(C)(1) STATEMENTS BY THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING OBSERVANCE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN A NUMBER OF THESE COUNTRIES. SIX SUCH COUNTRY STATEMENTS WERE SENT THE CONGRESS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECEMBER AND WERE SUBSEQUENTLY MADE PUBLIC BY THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

2. AS THE EMBASSY IS AWARE, WE ARE NOT OBLIGED UNDER PRESENT LAWS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON CHILE. NONETHELESS, IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXTENSIVE INFORMATION ON OTHER COUNTRIES SOON TO REACH THE PUBLIC, WE EXPECT TO BE ASKED VOLUNTARILY

TO MAKE AVAILABLE SIMILAR UNCLASSIFIED DATA ON CHILE. OPTIONALLY WE MAY BE ASKED BY THE CONGRESS TO HAVE AN INTERNAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW FOR LEGISLATIVE PURPOSES BY SELECTED PARLIAMENTARIANS AND THEIR STAFFS. SEVERAL RELATED

PRECEDENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SET: SENATOR HUMPHREY'S REQUEST IN NOVEMBER FOR PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF SEVENTEEN COUNTRY REPORTS, AND OUR JANUARY 19 LETTER TO CHAIRMAN MORGAN DECLASSIFYING OUR EVALUATION OF TWO PRIVATE REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

3. YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT WE CONSIDERED, AND FOR THE MOMENT HAVE SET ASIDE, THE GENERAL PROPOSITION OF VOLUNTARILY EMITTING REPORTS ON ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. WE ARE THINKING OF A PREPATORY STATEMENT TO THE EIGHTY REPORTS TO EXPLAIN THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM IS A UNIVERSAL ONE AND THAT THE REPORTS ACCOMPANY ANYTHING THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUEST DO NOT NECESSARILY INCLUDE THE MOST ABERRANT COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS DISCLAIMER WILL SUFFICE FOR CHILE. THE CONTINUED FOCUS HERE ON CHILE SUGGESTS WE NEED TO HAVE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC RELEASE AN UP-DATED STATEMENT ON THAT COUNTRY'S HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. WE SEE CERTAIN BENEFITS: A 502(B)(C)(1) STATEMENT WOULD GIVE CREDIT TO THE GOC AND ENCOURAGE IT TO TAKE FURTHER STEPS ON EASING SECURITY PRACTICES, WOULD UNDERLINE THE USG ROLE IN THIS REGARD, AND WOULD MAKE CURRENT THE VIEWS OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF THE VICARTATE, AND ICRC, REGARDING DETENTION CONDITIONS, THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND THE ISSUE OF DISAPPEARED PERSONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH A PREVIOUS RELEASE OF OVER EIGHTY COUNTRY REPORTS, THE GOC ON BALANCE MIGHT NOT REACT UNFAVORABLY TO A CHILE REPORT.

4. WE HAVE LAID OUT WHAT WE BELIEVE ARE THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF A PROPOSAL FOR A FORMAL CHILE STATEMENT. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON PROSPECTIVE GOC REACTION, AND, MOST IMPORTANT, ON WHETHER OUR HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVE IN CHILE WOULD BE PROMOTED. IF YOU AGREE ON SUCH A STATEMENT WE WOULD NEED FOR YOU TO ACCELERATE SUBMITTAL OF YOUR ANNUAL REPORT TO ARRIVE IN THE DEPARTMENT BY EARLY FEBRUARY. VANCE.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RVFIMBRES:LGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D770072-0146, D770033-0222
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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